## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /124 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OFP/FPD:JVLEDESMA:JMT
APPROVED BY EB:JLKATZ
EB/ORF:SWBOSWORTH
EB/OFP/FPD:JABOYLE
USDA/FAS:TOYLOE (INFO)
TREASURY:DCRAFTS (INFO)
STR:JSTARKEY (INFO)
EA/ANP:CTWINNING

-----089111 040322Z /61

P R 040032Z AUG 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AS, EPAP, ETRD

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN DEMARCHE REGARDING COUNTER-CYCLICAL BEEF IMPORT PROPOSALS

REF: CANBERRA 5937 (NOTAL)

1. MINISTER (COMMERCIAL) FROM AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, ROBERT SWIFT, DELIVERED DIPLOMATIC NOTE FRIDAY, JULY 28, TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT ADMINISTRATION MAY HAVE MODIFIED ITS OPPOSITION TO COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE MEAT IMPORT ACT. AUSTRALIA BELIEVES SUCH FORMULAE WOULD ESSENTIALLY TRANSFER TO SUPPLIER COUNTRIES THE BURDEN OF ADJUSTMENT TO VARIATIONS IN U.S. PRODUCTION AND ARGUES THAT SUCH LEGISLATION, IF ENACTED, COULD ALSO HAVE "SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS" FOR THE SUCCESS

OF THE MTN. KATZ STRESSED THAT WHILE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE COUNTER-CYCLICAL IMPORT FORMULAE, IT IS NOT THE INTENT OR DESIRE OF ANYONE TO REPLACE THE CURRENT REGIME WITH ONE WHICH WOULD BE MORE RESTRICTIVE OF IMPORTS. AT THE SAME TIME, WHILE THE COUNTER-CYCLICAL CONCEPT HAS CERTAIN ADVANTAGES IN THEORY, WE ARE AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD BE POSED FOR SUPPLIER COUNTRIES.—AND FOR THE U.S..—BY A COUNTER-CYCLICAL REGIME WHICH WOULD RESULT IN WIDE YEAR TO YEAR SWINGS IN ACCESS TO THE U.S. MARKET.

2. FYI: SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE OF HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE CONTINUES TO CONSIDER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO MEAT IMPORT ACT AND HAS SCHEDULED MARK-UP SESSION FOR TUES. AUGUST 8. SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF SPECULATES SUFFICIENT TIME REMAINS FOR REPORT TO FULL COMMITTEE AND PRESUMABLY A FLOOR VOTE BEFORE SUMMER RECESS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 18. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, AS

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